Notes for Dei Verbum (part 2)

I. What does the document say:

a. Chapter 3: Sacred Scripture; Its Inspiration and Divine Interpretation
   i. Sacred Scripture #11
      1. All of the Old and New Testament were inspired by the Holy Spirit.
      2. The inspired writers wrote only what God wanted them to write.
      3. Everything asserted by the human author is asserted by the Holy Spirit and is without error.
   ii. Sacred Scripture #12
      1. To interpreted the scripture, one must look at what both the human author and God wanted to assert.
      2. Interpreters need to use literary tool to examine the human author’s meaning.
      3. Interpreters need to use the whole of scripture and Church’s tradition to examine the Holy Spirit’s meaning.
   iii. Sacred Scripture #13
      1. To interpreted the scripture, one must look at what both the human author and God wanted to assert.
      2. Interpreters need to use literary tool to examine the human author’s meaning.
      3. Interpreters need to use the whole of scripture and Church’s tradition to examine the Holy Spirit’s meaning.

b. Summary of Chapter 3
   i. What inspiration is Not:
      1. Approval – God does not approve what the author already had written
      2. Guidance – God does not guide the author when he is going to write error
      3. Dictation – God does not dictate to the author what to write
   ii. What inspiration is
      1. God actively participated in writing all the text and not just parts.
      2. God worked with the human author’s ability so there is a dual authorship.
      3. God acted through the human authors so that everything they wrote he wanted written.
   iii. Interpretation
      1. Examine the human author
         a. **Culture**: Historical context
         b. **Author**: Who, To Whom, Why
         c. **Text**: Literary genres and mode of expression
      2. Examine the divine author
         a. Unity of Scripture
b. Living Tradition
c. Analogy of Faith: The Teaching of the Church
c. Chapter 4: The Old Testament
   i. Old Testament, #14
      1. The Old Testament show how God entered covenants with Abraham and Moses to form the people of Israel.
      2. Through the covenants and the prophets God revealed himself to Israel.
      3. Old Testament is inspired and holds value.
   ii. Old Testament, #15
      1. The Old Testament gradually prepared humanity for Jesus Christ.
      2. The Old Testament showed how God is both just and merciful.
      3. The Old Testament is incomplete but the mystery of our salvation hide to be illuminated by Jesus Christ.
   iii. Old Testament, #16
      2. The Old and New Testament work together to proclaiming the Gospel.
d. Chapter 5: The New Testament
   i. New Testament, #17
      2. Jesus is God made flesh and fully revealed God to all.
   ii. New Testament, #18
      1. The Gospels have a special preeminence in the Church, since the bear witness to Jesus’ life.
      2. The Gospels have apostolic origins, which means they come from the apostles.
   iii. New Testament, #19
      1. The Gospels are historically correct and portray the historical life of Jesus.
      2. The four Gospels are different because they are written by different authors for specific people but proclaim the same truth.
   iv. New Testament, #20
      1. The epistles of St. Paul and other apostles are inspired.
      2. The epistles reaffirm the truth of the Gospels and show the beginning of the Church.
e. Chapter 6: Scripture in the Life of the Church
   i. Scripture in the Life of the Church, #21
      1. The Church highly venerated the Sacred Scripture, especially in the liturgy.
2. The Church places the Scriptures as a source of Her preaching, a way for the Heavenly Father to encounter His children, and a supply of energy to strengthen Her faith.

ii. Scripture in the Life of the Church, #22
1. The Church carefully translates the Scriptures into different language in order that they will be easy accessible to all of man.

iii. Scripture in the Life of the Church, #23
1. The Church encourages theologians and biblical scholars to do exegesis on the Sacred Scripture as long as it is in line with the Church’s teaching.
2. The exegesis is to better feed the God’s people with the Word of God.

iv. Scripture in the Life of the Church, #24
1. Sacred theology, catechesis, and pastoral preaching all must flow from Sacred Scripture.

v. Scripture in the Life of the Church, #25
1. All of the Church is called to frequently read the Scriptures, especially those who are ministers of the word.
2. Prayer is advised when reading the Scripture to allow a conversation between the person and God.
3. Translation and footnotes should be present to assist man to better understand the Sacred Text.

vi. Scripture in the Life of the Church, #26
1. The reading and studying of Scripture brings conversions and helps spread the glory of God.

f. Lectio Divina
i. What it is?
1. Lectio: Read
   a. Slowly Read a Text
2. Meditatio: Meditate
   a. Think about passages, phrases, or words that strike you
3. Oratio: Pray
   a. Talking to God about what you have read
4. Contemplatio: Contemplate
   a. Seating in the presence of God.

ii. How to do it?
1. Lectio: Read
   a. What does the text say?
2. Meditatio: Meditate
   a. What does the text say to you?
3. Oratio: Pray
   a. What are you going to say to God?
4. Contemplatio: Contemplate
   a. No Question
II. Implementation
   a. New Lectionary
   b. Pontifical Biblical Commission
      i. Document – Interpretation of the Bible in the Church (guideline and critic of different interpretation methods).
   c. Verbum Dumini
      i. Apostolic Exhortation on the Word of God.
   d. Pope Benedict XVI Book: Jesus of Nazareth
      i. Example of interpreting the Bible using the guidelines of the church